

## Message Text

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22

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ARA-06 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /103 W

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R 162125Z SEP 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9203

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USEC BRUSSELS 1983

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3767

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, US,UNSC, SF, WA

SUBJ: COMMENTS OF UN COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA MACBRIDE

REF (A) STATE 210297 (NOTAL) (B) USUN 3454 (NOTAL)

1. PER REFTEL A, USUN INFORMED MISSIONS OF UK, FRANCE, ITALY, JAPAN, AND NETHERLANDS (FOR EC-9) OF GOV SCRANTON'S MEETING WITH SYG WALDHEIM ON AUGUST 25 (REFTEL B) CONCERNING SEAN MACBRIDE. AS OF SEPT. 14, ONLY UK AND NETHERLANDS HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FOR REPLY TO USG SUGGESTION THAT THEY CONSIDER PARALLEL ACTION.

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WM UK AGREED WITH USG ACTION, BUT BELIEVED THAT FURTHER

ACTIVITY WOULD ONLY DRAW MORE ATTENTION TO MACBRIDE'S COMMENTS THAN THEY DESERVE. NETHERLANDS ALSO AGREED THAT MACBRIDE HAD EXCEEDED HIS AUTHORITY, BUT SAID THAT SINCE IT WOULD TAKE SOME TIME TO COORDINATE EC-9 APPROACH, THEY WOULDN'T TAKE ANY ACTION UNLESS USG REQUESTS FURTHER CONSIDERATION.

3. FRENCH, ITALIAN AND JAPANESE MISOFFS RESPONDED ALONG THE SAME LINE AS THE BRITISH, ALTHOUGH THEY STILL HAVEN'T RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS, THEY BELIEVE THAT USG ACTION WAS ADQEQUATE AND APPROPRIATE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES BUT THAT FURTHER DEMARCHES WOULD ONLY DIGNIFY AND AMPLIFY MACBRIDE'S REMARKS. FRENCH MISOFF ADDED THAT MACBRIDE'S REPLACEMENT MIGHT BE A "RADICAL" AND CAUSE EVEN MORE TROUBLE FOR THE WESTERN NATIONS.

4. COMMENT: THESE REACTIONS, OF COURSE, DID NOT REFLECT KNOWLEDGE OF THE MOST RECENT MACBRIDE TRANSGRESSIONS IN LAGOS, WHICH MIGHT CONDITION THE ATTITUDES OF FRIENDS WHO HAVE TENDED TO DISMISS MACBRIDE'S STATEMENTS AS TYPICAL OF A HIDEBOUND IRISHMAN. HOWEVER, JUDGING FROM OPINIONS EXPRESSED TO US BY EUROPEAN AND JAPANESE MISOFFS, WE DOUBT THAT EVEN THE DISCLOSURE OF MACBRIDE'S MOST RECENT COMMENTS (WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REPORTED IN THE PRESS HERE) WILL NECESSARILY HEIGHTEN THE CONCERN IN OTHER MISSIONS AND CAPITALS, UNLESS THE DEPT INSTRUCTS US AND OTHERS TO RAISE THE LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION BOTH WITHIN USUN AND AT FIELD POSTS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976USUNN03767  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760351-0314  
**From:** USUN NEW YORK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 210297, 76 USUN NEW YORK 3454  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <01 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2004 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COMMENTS OF UN COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA MACBRIDE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, US, SF, WA, UNSC, (MCBRIDE, SEAN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006